

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SB 568**

February 16, 2005

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** (1) Provides a mechanism for a limited constitutional convention to consider altering, reforming, or abolishing the following sections of the Tennessee Constitution: Article VII, Sections 1 and 2, Article X, Sections 4 and 5, Article XI, Sections 9 and 17, relative to the consolidation of local government. (2) Requires to be submitted to the voters at the regular August election the question of calling a limited constitutional convention, electing delegates to the convention at the regular November election and holding an election on whether to ratify any proposed amendments passed by the convention. (3) If the convention fails to set a date for the election, the General Assembly next convening would call the election. (4) Requires the Secretary of State to publish notice of such an election in a newspaper of general circulation in each county.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$20,000 One-Time**

Assumptions:

- A cost of \$20,000 to publish notices in the newspaper in each county.
- Election expenses will be minimal, since the question of calling a convention and electing delegates will be placed on the regular August and November election ballots.

Note: The estimated cost of holding a constitutional convention with 33 delegates to consider the issues contained in the bill is as follows: 15 days - \$108,000; 20 days - \$140,000; 30 days - \$205,000. The estimated cost to hold a statewide referendum that is not conducted in conjunction with a statewide election is approximately \$4,000,000.

For information purposes, this bill calls for elections based on the 2004 election calendar instead of the 2006 election calendar.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director